

Claim Amendments

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A cutting insert, comprising:
 - a top surface comprising at least four convex cutting edges;
 - a bottom surface with a perimeter that is less than the perimeter of the top surface;
 - at least one conical clearance surface adjacent to at least one of the convex cutting edges extending between the top surface and bottom surface; and
 - nose corners connecting the at least four convex cutting edges, wherein the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to two times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim 1, wherein each of the nose corners comprises at least one of a circular arc, a series of circular arcs, and a multi-segment spline curve.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim 1, wherein at least one of the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to five times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.

8. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim ~~2~~1, wherein the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to ten times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.
9. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim-~~5~~4, wherein the convex cutting edges further comprise at least one substantially straight line.
10. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim-~~6~~4, wherein the convex cutting edge comprises two substantially straight lines.
11. (Currently Amended) The cutting insert of claim-~~6~~4, wherein the convex cutting edge comprises three substantially straight lines.
12. (Original) The cutting insert of claim 1, wherein the convex cutting edges comprises at least one of a circular arc, a portion of an ellipse, a portion of a parabola, a multi-segment spline curve, a straight line.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Original) The cutting insert of claim 1, further comprising chip breaking geometry on the top surface.
16. (Currently Amended) A cutting insert, comprising:
 - a top surface comprising at least four convex cutting edges, wherein the cutting edges comprise a circular arc portion and at least one straight portion;
 - a bottom surface with a perimeter that is less than the perimeter of the top surface;
 - the cutting edges are substantially parallel to the bottom surface;
 - at least one conical clearance surface adjacent to at least one of the convex cutting edges and extending between the top surface and the bottom surface;
 - and

nose corners connecting the at least four convex cutting edges, wherein at least one of the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to two times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The cutting insert of claim 16, wherein at least one of the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to five times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.

22. (Previously Presented) The cutting insert of claim 16, wherein the convex cutting edges comprise a circular arc with a radius greater than or equal to ten times a radius of the largest circle that may be inscribed on the top surface.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The cutting insert of claim 16, wherein the convex cutting edge comprises two substantially straight lines.

25. (Previously Presented) The cutting insert of claim 24, wherein the convex cutting edge comprises three substantially straight lines.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The cutting insert of claim 16, further comprising chip breaking geometry on the top surface.

28. (New) The cutting insert of claim 1, wherein each clearance surface extends downward from the circular arc of each cutting edge to the bottom surface.

29. (New) The cutting insert of claim 5, wherein the conical clearance surface extends below the entire length of the circular arc.
30. (New) The cutting insert of claim 16, wherein each clearance surface extends downward from the circular arc of each cutting edge to the bottom surface.
31. (New) The cutting insert of claim 5, wherein the conical clearance surface extends below the entire length of the circular arc.